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Welcome!

NEW MEMBERS

Emily Auerbach, Madison
Renee Beese, Oshkosh
Alyssa Blando, Menominee MI
James Burton, Sheboygan
Angela Buss, Marion
Rose Heflin, Madison
Steven Hogdon, Weston
James Lieven, Sheboygan
Jess Parker, Fitchburg
Heather Sheets, Sheboygan
Thomas Singleton, Plymouth
Claude Clayton Smith, Madison
Rebecca Spurlock, Oshkosh
Nick Sullivan, Madison
Paul Walter, West Bend
Laura Winkelspecht, De Pere
Trina Woldt, Oshkosh

A Note from the Membership Chair

We welcome your questions, comments and suggestions regarding membership! Please contact Naomi Cochran at wfopmembership@gmail.com or mail to W1598 Lee Rd, Hayward WI 54843.

Muse Contest DEADLINE February 1



Rules & entry forms:

[wfop.org/contests/
muse.html](http://wfop.org/contests/muse.html)

President's Message

The longer I serve as WFOP president, the more I realize how many dedicated members work hard to promote poetry around the state. I feel privileged to be part of a group of poets who serve in so many capacities in so many places. I wish I could attend some of these poetic events, but distance is an obstacle in most cases.

At the fall conference, two members who have “made an outstanding contribution to the welfare and activities of the Fellowship” were awarded honorary lifetime memberships. **Loretta Strehlow** served as WFOP vice-president 1984–86 and president 1986–88. It was during her time as president that the *Wisconsin Poets' Calendar* became an annual publication of the Fellowship. **Michael Farmer**, the second recipient of the award, served as *Calendar* business manager 2005–2017 and is one of the reasons the calendar tradition has continued. Neither of these two could attend the conference and receive their awards, but I want each of them to know how much WFOP appreciates their contributions.

The *Calendar* is just one of several opportunities for members to submit their work and “test the waters,” so to speak. *Bramble*, WFOP's quarterly journal, is now open to all Wisconsin poets, members and nonmembers alike. Both publications have December deadlines, so check wfop.org for details. The *Museletter* features a “Poetry by Our Membership” page with a different theme or prompt every issue. The Muse contest is now open for submissions from Wisconsin poets, as is the annual chapbook contest, both with February 1 deadlines. If you know teachers and students interested in poetry, be sure to share information about our annual student contest, deadline January 12.

Whew! These are a lot of publications and contests, and they would not exist without the time and energy of volunteers. Many thanks to current calendar editors **Erna Kelly** and **Karen Loeb**; *Calendar* business manager **Carol Pemrich Hauser**; *Bramble* managing editor **Christina Kubasta**; **Tori Grant Welhouse**, layout and design for *Bramble*; **Elmae Passineau**, *Museletter* poetry editor; Muse contest chair **Fred Kreutz**; chapbook contest coordinator **Judy Kolosso**; and student contest coordinator **Lewis Bosworth**.

Two officers are “retiring” at the end of 2018. **Ronnie Hess** is stepping down as secretary and **Dennis Collier** will be taking over. **Michael Belongie** is handing over executive vice-president duties to **Michael Kriesel**. You can read more about the two new officers on p. 4. (Though Mike isn't really “new,” having just preceded me as president).

To make it possible for members to plan and host more poetry events around the state, the WFOP board has approved making special grants up to \$300 available. Forms will be on the website or available from regional vice presidents.

This fall conference was terrific! TC Tolbert was phenomenal. We all gained valuable perspectives on what it is like to be a trans person in today's world and how poetry can help all of us deal with our lives. TC's reading was interpreted simultaneously by Andrew

The Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets is online at wfop.org

Linskens' intriguing art. Many thanks to **Tori Grant Welhouse**, who planned the conference. Her hard work was evident in every aspect of an exciting event.

Stay warm and safe this winter, Write lots of poems.
—Jan

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What's Happening in Your Region?

All events free & open to the public unless stated otherwise.

CENTRAL-FOX VALLEY

VP: Christina Kubasta, ckkubasta60@marianuniversity.edu

Your regional VP wishes to share your news! Please send. Email her to be added to the area events list. Regular readings are at Thelma, Fond du Lac (thelmartarts.org), Evergreen Manor, Oshkosh, and The Draw, Appleton.

EAST

VP: Ed Werstein, wersted@gmail.com

Jim Landwehr, poet laureate for the Village of Wales, presented 50 signed poetry books from local and national poets to the Kettle Moraine High School librarian on October 25. The books will go into the high school library in an effort to get poetry into the hands of students.

Bards Against Hunger (bardsagainsthunger.com) has published a book of poems exclusively from Wisconsin poets. The book will be used to raise funds for food pantries in Wisconsin. If you are interested in hosting a reading in your area, or having some books to sell to raise funds for food pantries or meal programs, please email **Ed Werstein** at **wersted@gmail.com**. The first East Region reading will be at Good Harvest Market, 2205 Silvernail Rd, Pewaukee, December 9 at 1 PM, to benefit the Waukesha Food Pantry. Contributors are invited to come and read their poems, and the public is invited to read a poem on hunger and/or social justice. Readings are planned for St. Ben's parish and the Friends House in Milwaukee, and Cudahy.

Poets Monday at Linneman's, 1001 E. Locust St., Milwaukee, continues its uninterrupted run of excellent featured readers and open mikes every Monday. Check the Events mailing for upcoming featured readers. Doors open at 7:30 PM. Open mike at 8 PM. Featured reader at 9 PM. \$3 cover charge. If you are ever in Milwaukee on a Monday evening, just show up and sign in. First-time readers are roundly applauded.

Eileen Mattmann had two poems published in *Millwork* and one in *Zoetic Press*. She was runner-up for the Ars Poetica prize from *Riddled With Arrows* for her "Ode to a lost poem." She was also nominated for Best of the Net for a poem published in *Postcard Poems and Prose* called "Standing In the Path of Totality."

The East Region was well represented among the Triad Award winners announced at the Fall conference; **Marilyn Zelke-Windau** and **Maryann Hurtt** were among the honorees. Both are members of the Sheboygan area's Grand Avenue Poetry Collective.

The 2018 100K Poets for Change reading was held at Mead Library in Sheboygan. Among the readers at this year's event were **Lisa Vihos**, **Georgia Ressimeyer**, **Sylvia Cavanaugh**, **Maryann Hurtt**, **Marilyn Zelke-Windau**, **Ed Werstein**, and new member **James Burton**. Apologies to any WFOP member I've failed to mention.

The East Region's annual *Poets' Calendar* reading will be held Saturday, November 17, 2 PM, at Milwaukee Central Library, in the beautiful Rare Books Room. 2019 *Poets' Calendar* contributors are invited to read their poetry. Free to the public. *Calendars* will be for sale.

The Waukesha Open Poetry group meets second Sundays at 3 PM at Martha Merrell's bookstore, 231 W Main St, Waukesha. Bring poems to share. No fees.

MID-CENTRAL

VP: Kathleen Serley, kserley@dwave.net

Elmae Passineau, Weston, had a poem, "Innocence," in *Wisconsin Bards Against Hunger*; "A Nuance of Grandma" in the Trace exhibit, and "Long Distance" and "Hearing Voices" in the 2018 *Goose River Anthology*.

Dawn Anderson published *Change Your Life Journal: A Guide to Happiness*, a guided journal with culminating chapter poetry. Search "CreatetheDawn" on Amazon.com.

Karen Wollenburg's poem "Henry Finney" and **Nancy Runner's** poem, "Gone Without a Trace" were in the Trace exhibit at the Center for Visual Arts, Wausau and published in the exhibition catalog.

Jim Pollock's poem "Chance Meeting on the Lake Superior Shore" was in the Trace exhibit.

Mary "Ray" Goehring had poems in *Sowing Seeds of Peace*, 2018 Art of Peace Poetry Anthology, Tyler, Texas.

Sue Twigg's poem, "Autumn trees are bare" appeared in *The Avocet*, Fall 2018 issue.

Kathleen Serley's poem "Reading Zane Grey" placed third in the Hal Prize 2018. Her poem "Highway 40 feels the same" was in the Trace exhibit.

Vlasta Blaha, **Sue Twigg's**, **Kris Rued-Clark**, **Mavis Flegle** and **Linda Aschbrenner** each had a poem selected for display at the Trace exhibit. **Sue Twigg's** poem, "Leonardo Ponders the Mona Lisa," paired with Robin O'Flynn's art, won the Viewers' Choice Third Place Award for the best collaboration/interpretation.

Jeffrey Johannes' poem and the art work it inspired were voted the winning collaboration in the Trace exhibit. He also has a poem in the 2018 *Ariel Anthology*.

Joan Wiese Johannes also had a poem in the Trace show and in *Pink Panther Magazine*. They are the co-editors for the winter issue of *Bramble*.

NORTHEAST

VP: **Tori Grant Welhouse**, torigw@twc.com

Nancy Rafal won third place in the Wisconsin Writers Association Jade Ring Poetry contest. Her entry, "Twists and Turns," was published in the WWA *Creative Wisconsin Anthology* 2018. The contest judge was **Bruce Dethlefsen**.

Tonya McKenna Trabant had a poem, "Youth Basketball: A Poem," in the Art + Literature Laboratory.

NORTHWEST

VPs: **Nancy Austin**, austin10929@gmail.com, & **Andree Graveley**, graveley@newnorth.net

Elizabeth Tornes read her poem "Close" at the Trace exhibit on September 30, where artists selected poems and illustrated them. She had two poems, "Bijou Come Back as a Wolf" and "In Memory of Biidwebiisaaban (The Sound of Rain Coming)," in the 100th Issue of *Boulevard*, Fall 2018. "In Memory of Biidwebiisaaban (The Sound of Rain Falling)" was featured in *Poetry Daily* October 6.

Jan Chronister has five poems featured in *Peacock Journal* as well as poems in *Minute Magazine*, *Wisconsin Bards against Hunger*, *Your Daily Poem*, *Jill Magazine*, *Ariel Anthology*, *Talking Stick 27*, *Quiet Storm*, and *Visiting Bob: Poems Inspired by the Life and Work of Bob Dylan* (New Rivers Press). One of her poems was chosen for the Trace exhibit. Jan read from her new full-length poetry collection *Caught between Coasts* at a release event in Superior and at the Forest Lodge Library in Cable and the Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College in Cloquet, Minnesota. She taught a three-week workshop on poetic forms at WITC-Superior.

Lucy Tyrrell's poem "Inscription on Pompey's Pillar" was included in the Trace exhibit. Lucy read her 2019 *Calendar* poem "Wisconsin Fare" and other poems at the poetry reading organized by **Diana Randolph** in Drummond on October 14. Her poem "Millais: Ophelia" was included in the *Weekly Avocet* 301. Lucy served on the *Ariel Anthology* Committee 2018.

Peggy Trojan has poems in *Talking Stick*, *Ariel Anthology*, *Jill Magazine*, *Wisconsin Bards against Hunger*, *Your Daily Poem*, and *Goose River Anthology*. She was the featured speaker for the Old Brule Historical Society and read poems from her chapbook *Homefront: Childhood Memories of WWII* (Evening Street Press). A poem of Peggy's about war will be engraved on a bronze plaque mounted on a large rock at the Brule Lions' Club Memorial Park.

SOUTH CENTRAL

VP: **James P. Roberts**, jrob52162@aol.com

Next First Tuesday Poetry Reading and Open Mic at Suzy's Steakhouse will be February 5, 2019, 6:30–8:30 PM, featuring **Lynn Patrick Smith & Gabe Sauers**. 2701 County CX, Portage, suzysportage.com

Steve Tomasko won the Hal Prize AND an honorable mention in the Peninsula Pulse contest.

Roger Dutcher had a poem published in *The Pedestal*.

Ronnie Hess had two poems published in *The Ekphrastic Review*. She held a reading and reception for her new book *O is for Owl* at the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Museum in Wausau on October 12.

James P. Roberts has released a poetry chapbook, *Sonnets To Make You Smile*, under his nom de plume, Humbert Dilly.

Elayne Clipper Hanson and **James P. Roberts** were the Poetry In Portage featured readers at Suzy's August 7.

James P. Roberts and **Fabu** were among the readers at the Alzheimer's Poetry Project event at the Madison Central Library on September 19; **Nathan Reid** was the featured reader October 2.

Marilyn Annucci, **Robin Chapman**, **Catherine Jagoe**, **Sara Parrell** and **Ron Czerwien** joined other poets at the Susan Elbe Memorial Reading at the Arts & Literature Lab on September 25.

James P. Roberts, **F. J. Bergmann**, **Tom Boswell**, and **Steve Tomasko** read at *Rosebud Magazine's* 25th Anniversary Celebration, *Mystery To Me*, October 25.

Nathan Reid was the featured reader on WORT Radio's 'Access Hour' October 29, doing a splendid reading of Poe's "The Raven."

Ron Czerwien celebrated the release of his poetry chapbook *a little rain, a little more* at Mother Fool's Coffeehouse in Madison on November 2nd

F.J. Bergmann had poems "Food Indigo" in *Whistling Shade*; "Avocation" in *Asimov's SF*; "Verdant" in *Dreams and Nightmares*; "autumn bonfire," "black hellebore in Hades," "A Shuggoth Approaches," "fantasy football league," "trying on a used spacesuit," "first frost," "Claimant" (Pushcart nom.) in *Star*Line*; "Guests" in *Polu Texni*; "New Spring" in *Mithila Review*; "Self-Preservation" in *The Drabble*; "Dichotomy," "Starry Night" and "Valentine" in *Sleet*; "Creative Evolution," "Something in the Air," and "The Spell" in *Scryptic*; "Appropriate Tools" in *The Pedestal*; "Masque" in *Eye to the Telescope*; "Mind Disaster" in *One Sentence Poems*; "Denial of Service" and "Katabasis" in *Switched-On Gutenberg*; "True North" in *Unbroken*; "A Victorian Atmosphere" in *Visual Verse*; "Beatitude," "Good Intentions" and "Société Anonyme" in *Unlikely Stories*; "Acolyte," "Affluence," "Delicacy" and "Fetch" in *Anti-Heroic Chic*; and "100 Reasons to Have Sex

with an Alien,” “Eating Light,” “Human Resources” and “Xenoaesthetics” in the *Multiverse* anthology (Shoreline of Infinity, 2018, UK). “Xenolinguistics” was nominated for a Pushcart by *Rosebud. A Catalogue of the Further Suns* (Gold Line Press, 2017) won the SFWA Elgin Chapbook Award.

WEST CENTRAL

VPs: Sandra Lindow, lindowleaf@gmail.com, & Alex Zitzner, amzitzner@gmail.com

Phyllis Beckman’s (Onalaska) poem “Hanging On” appeared online in the Franciscan Spirituality Center’s *Reflections From the Center*.

Fall 2018 brought a harvest of poetry in the Chippewa Valley. Alex Zitzner, UW–Eau Claire, will serve as West Central Co-VP, to invite younger writers to join WFOP.

Linda Frank hosted the Autumn Equinox White Pine Sept. 20 at Simply Dunn in Downsville. Participants included Sandra Lindow and Yvette Viets Flaten. On Oct. 10, Jeannie Roberts participated in “Hard Times: an Artistic Expression of Poetry in Eau Claire,” Pablo Center at the Confluence. Karen Loeb was appointed Writer-in-Residence 2018–2020 by the city of Eau Claire. She hosts monthly Writers’ Read events on second Thursdays at the Eau Claire L.E. Phillips Memorial Library. The October 11 event was a celebration of the 2019 *Wisconsin Poets’ Calendar*. Participants included Lopamudra Basu, Debbie Brown, Linda Frank, Candace Hennekens, Erna Kelly, Warren Lang, Sandra Lindow, Karen Loeb, Bruce Taylor, Yvette Viets Flaten, and Deetje Wildes.

The Chippewa Valley Book Festival was held October 15–25, including the *Barstow & Grand* Issue 2 Release Reading October 16. Readers included Jan Carroll, Max Garland, Loeb, Flaten, and Lindow. The October 19 Nadine St. Louis Memorial Poetry Conversation, Words without Borders: A Celebration of Poetry in Translation, featured Jesse Lee Kercheval and Karen Kovacik along with ecWit (Eau Claire Women in Theater), a reader’s theater performance group, reading from recent anthologies and translations of Polish and Uruguayan poets.

September 5, Loeb’s poem “My List” was printed in *Volume One* and online in the Local Lit column.

Lindow’s “Moondome Drag Show Review” appeared in *Scifaikuest*. “Island Epistolary” appeared online in *Haiku Universe*. Her poems “At Last” and “Om Economics” both won 2nd places in the 2018 SFWA poetry contest; read them at sfpoetry.com/contests.html. “Niagara, or Nothing” is in *Barstow and Grand*. “Where I Live, A Tour of High Crimes and Misdemeanors, 2002–2008,” appears online in Local Lit, *Volume One*, Sept. 28, and “Designated Responsibilities for Spokesparticles.” in *Star*Line* 41.4.

Flaten’s “Usual Suspects” appears in Local Lit, *Volume*

One. “He calls from Afghanistan” appears in *Barstow and Grand* 2, “Turtle” in *Ariel Anthology*, and “39th Anniversary” in the winter edition of *Blue Heron Review*.

Jeannie Roberts has been named poetry editor of *Halfway Down the Stairs*, halfwaydownthestairs.net. Her poetry publications: *Quill and Parchment*, August, “Inuksuit Stand”; *Visual Verse*, August, “The Hypnotic State of Following Suit”; September “The After Years”; October, “An Idea”; *Anti-Heroic Chic*, September, “Objectification”; “Ode to Collage #7” and “Housing Depression” in *The Ekphrastic Review*, October 7; “Awaken” and accompanying cover art are featured in the November *South Florida Poetry Journal*.

The Writing Group at the Library, now in its 31st year, is on first Thursdays at the Eau Claire Memorial Library, 2–4 PM. The 1st Congo Writing Group meets at First Congregational Church in Menomonie at 9:30 AM third Tuesdays. The next White Pine will be January 4, 7–9 PM at Simply Dunn in Downsville.

The WFOP 2019 Spring Conference will be held at the Holiday Inn Conference Center in Eau Claire April 26–27. The guest of honor is Minnesota Book Award winner Heid E. Erdrich, plus a performance by ecWIT (Eau Claire Women in Theater) as well as a panel on Chippewa Valley poetry opportunities Contact Sandra Lindow at lindowleaf@gmail.com for more information.

Meet your new WFOP officers!

Vice President Mike Kriesel joined WFOP in 2003. Past President of WFOP (2013–2015), former WFOP Conference Coordinator (2006–2012), and past WFOP Poet Laureate Commission Rep. (2006–2008). He is currently poetry editor for *Rosebud* magazine. Winner of *North American Review*’s Hearst Prize, he appears in 2017’s anthology *New Poetry from the Midwest*. His collection of abecedarians, *Zen Amen*, is due out soon from Pebblebrook Press.

Secretary Dennis Collier has been a member of the WFOP for 4 years and his poems have appeared in the *Wisconsin Poets’ Calendar* and *Bramble*. Now retired, he worked as a newspaper reporter and editor in Hartford, Beloit and Beaver Dam, and as a fiscal policy analyst with the Wisconsin Department of Revenue and several nonprofit organizations. He has a bachelor’s degree in journalism and English from Marquette University, and master’s degrees in public policy and administration from the University of Wisconsin and religious studies from Edgewood College. He and his wife Janice live in Madison, and they have four grown children, ten grandchildren and one great-grandson.

RULES FOR WFOP 2019 MUSE PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN POETRY CONTEST
DEADLINE FEBRUARY 1, 2019

1. Contestant must be a Wisconsin resident 18 years of age or older.
2. The entry form must be completed in full, included with the submission and postmarked by the contest deadline date listed on the entry form.
3. Only one original unpublished poem not under consideration elsewhere may be entered in the WFOP Muse Prize contest. The poem may not be a simultaneous submission, and it may not have won a monetary award in any contest. 75-line maximum. Send two copies of poem. Plagiarism disqualifies the contestant.
4. Manuscript must be typed on 8 1/2" x 11" white paper, one side only. Writer's name should not appear on the page with the poem.
5. An entry fee of \$4.00 for WFOP members and \$8.00 for non-members must accompany the submission or may be paid online at wfop.org/store. Checks are to be made out to WFOP Literary Fund and mailed to WFOP/Muse/Jagielski, 572 Berwyn Drive, Fontana, WI 53125. Please send entry in #10 business-size envelope.
6. Prizes are: 1st place - \$200.00, 2nd - \$100.00, 3rd - \$75.00.
7. Only the winners will be notified prior to the WFOP Spring Conference. The list of winners will be published in the WFOP *Museletter* and posted on wfop.org after the conference.
8. Prizes will be awarded only if there are sufficient entries and the contest judge determines that an entry warrants a prize award.
9. The first-place winner of the Muse Prize will be ineligible to enter for three years.
10. WFOP is not responsible for lost manuscripts. Do not send a SASE. Entries will not be returned and there will be no notification if an entry is disqualified for failure to follow any of the above rules.
11. Author retains all rights to his/her work.

Saturday, February 2, 7 PM: Write On partners with Door Community Auditorium to present Words on Water for the Fireside Coffeehouse Series. Presented annually as Words on Fire, the 2019 offering will be part of the county-wide celebration and discussion of water. Write On has issued a call for poems with a water theme to be considered for the reading. Poems may be previously published. An editorial committee will select poems. Poets agree to be available to read their poem(s) on Saturday, February 2, or to find a substitute. An ensemble will provide the music for the program. Submit poems to jerod@writeondoorcounty.org with "Words On Water" in the subject line by **5 PM Friday, December 7.**

Publications by Our Members

a little rain, a little more by Ron Czerwien is out from Bent Paddle Press. Czerwien writes the strange familiar and the familiar strange. Snowflakes, owls, fathers, loves, premonitions; these poems surprise. They are conversations with friends you always knew you had but never knew you had. Poems of close attention; poems from that place poets go and bring back something entirely their own. Pull up your wing chair, sit awhile at this window on the world. More about the book and read (and listen to!) poems at jeanietomasko.com/bentpaddlepress.

The judge for the 2019 WFOP Muse Poetry contest is **David Salner**. His working life has included jobs as iron-ore miner, steelworker, machinist, bus driver, longshoreman, teacher, and librarian. He won the 2010 Oboh Prize from *Boxcar Poetry Review* and the 2016 Lascaux Poetry Prize. He has seven Pushcart nominations and one Best of the Net. His poetry has appeared in *Threepenny Review*, *Iowa Review*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Salmagundi*, *North American Review*, *Beloit Poetry Journal* and many others. He has published three poetry collections, *Working Here* (Rooster Hill Press, 2010), *John Henry's Partner Speaks* (WordTech, 2008), and *Blue Morning Light* (Pond Press, 2016), as well as many prose pieces. He is currently working on a novel set in 1923 New York about the sandhogs who built the Holland Tunnel. dsalner.wixsite.com/salner

The True Story by Gillian Nevers, illustrated with woodblock prints by Judith Bellinghausen Mayer, explores a woman's relationships (some romantic, some not) from girlhood until old age. Available for \$12.00 from Fuller's Windy Acres Farm Press (fullerswindyacresfarmpress@gmail.com) or from Gillian Nevers at neversgillian@gmail.com.

On a Road, Jim Landwehr's third book of poetry, was released by Unsolicited Press. Get it at unsolicitedpress.com/store/p178/landwehrbook.html.

2019 MUSE PRIZE ENTRY FORM • DEADLINE: **FEBRUARY 1, 2019** (postmark)

Name _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____ E-Mail _____

City, State, Zip _____

Poem Title: _____

First Line: _____

If my poem wins, I agree to have it published in the Museletter ___yes ___no

I am a Wisconsin resident, 18 years of age or older. The poem I am submitting is my own original unpublished work, is not under consideration elsewhere at this time, nor has it won a monetary award in any contest.

Signature _____ Date _____

Entry Fee Enclosed: Current WFOP Member - \$4.00 _____ Non-member - \$8.00 _____

Make Check Payable to: WFOP Literary Fund, or _____ (check here if paid online at wfop.org/store)

Mail Entry to: **WFOP/Muse/Jagielski**
572 Berwyn Drive
Fontana, WI 53125-1556

WFOP's Literary Journal

Bramble, WFOP's literary magazine, is open for submissions for the Winter issue until **December 15**.

Guest Editors: Jeffrey & Joan Wiese Johannes

Open to all forms and styles. Quarterly issues are guest edited by WFOP members and open to all Wisconsin poets. For queries about artwork, guest editing, and all other things Bramble, please email bramble@wfop.org. *Bramble* is now web and print.

Full guidelines at:

wfop.org/bramble-lit-mag/how-to-submit

Postal submissions (*only* if unable to email) to:

C. Kubasta
***Bramble* submission**
2312 Oregon St
Oshkosh WI 54902

Submission Guidelines
for 2020 Wisconsin Poet's Calendar

The 2020 theme is "Going Places." Open to anyone with a Wisconsin connection. 25-line limit per poem, including stanza breaks. Submit 1–2 poems, no sim subs. Prev. pub. OK. Poems sent after 11:59 p.m. on Dec. 1 will not be considered.

- Email poems as one attached doc or .docx (no PDFs) to **2020wfopcalendar@gmail.com**. Include line count, your name, street address, phone, email, and short third-person bio (30 words max).

- We prefer email subs, but typed poems may be mailed. Include SASE for notification. Address to:

Erna Kelly
1604 Drummond St.
Eau Claire, WI 54701

Full guidelines at **wfop.org/poets-calendar/**

| **Order 2019 Wisconsin Poets' Calendars now** |
| **for holiday gifts.** |
| **wfop.org/wisconsin-poets-calendar-store/** |
| **Past Calendars still available at impressive discounts!** |

Seeking a Co-Manager for the WI Poets' Calendar: Duties include working with editors, designers, and business manager to make and implement efficient processes for printing and marketing the *Calendar*. Contact Carol Pemrich Hauser with questions and interest. **thisiscarol@outlook.com**.

2019 WISCONSIN FELLOWSHIP OF POETS CHAPBOOK PRIZE RULES

The Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets is dedicated to promoting poetry in Wisconsin and seeks to expand its contest offerings by honoring the best chapbook published in the previous year by a Wisconsin resident.

1. Contestant must be a Wisconsin resident 18 years of age or older. A resident is a person who maintains a permanent residence in Wisconsin or who has lived for at least six continuous months in the state during the contest year. A contestant does not need to be a member of the Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets, but the non-member fee is higher.
2. The contest opens December 1, 2018. The entry form must be completed in full, included with the submission and entry fee, and postmarked by the contest DEADLINE, which is February 1, 2019.
3. Chapbooks published in 2018 may be entered by the author or the publisher, up to 47 pages long. Chapbooks may be self-published. Print only; online and e-book chapbooks do not qualify.
4. The non-refundable entry fee is \$7 per chapbook entry for WFOP members and \$15 per chapbook entry for non-members. Mail chapbook, entry form, and check (made out to WFOP Literary Fund) to:

Judy Kolosso
4320 Cedar Creek Rd
Slinger WI 53086

5. Prizes are: First Place—\$200.00; and Second Place—\$100.00. Prizes will be awarded only if there are sufficient entries and the contest judge determines that an entry warrants a prize.
6. The contest will be judged by a writing professional who resides outside the state. This year's judge is **Caroline Johnson** from Illinois. She has two poetry chapbooks, *Where the Street Ends* and *My Mother's Artwork*, and over 100 poems in print. A Pushcart and Best of the Net nominee, she has won numerous poetry awards, including the 2012 *Chicago Tribune* Poetry Contest. Her work has appeared in *Lunch Ticket*, *Rambunctious Review*, *Origins Journal*, *The Quotable*, *Encore*, *Naugatuck River Review*, *Blast Furnace*, *New Scriptor*, *Prairie Light Review*, Kind of a Hurricane Press, among others. Current president of Poets and Patrons of Chicago and former English teacher, she is now a college advisor. Her first full-length poetry collection is *The Caregiver* (Holy Cow! Press, 2018). Visit caroline-johnson.com.
7. Only the winners will be notified prior to the Spring Conference in April. First Place and Second Place winners are invited to the awards luncheon as guests of WFOP. Winners will be posted in the WFOP *Museletter* and at wfop.org.
8. The First Place winner of the WFOP Chapbook Prize will be ineligible to enter that contest again for three years.
9. The WFOP is not responsible for lost books. Do not send a SASE. Entries will not be returned and there will be no notification if an entry is disqualified for failure to follow any of the above rules.
10. Author retains all rights to his/her work.
11. Address questions to Judy Kolosso: jkssummerhill@gmail.com.

About Your Membership

Renew NOW—before you forget!

Renewal payments are due **December 31st** each year. Your membership expires at the end of the year on your *Museletter* mailing label. To receive reminders, make sure we have your current e-mail address.

NB: *If you allow your membership to lapse, then renew without paying dues for the intervening time, you will be entered as a new member. Continuous membership is required for service awards.*

If you vacation elsewhere, mail must be sent first class in order to forward. We are charged for returned bulk mail. Signing up for e-mail-only *Museletter* (.pdf to download or read online) saves WFOP \$ and arrives 2 weeks before the print *Museletter*. Notify wfopmuseletter@gmail.com to opt out of print delivery.

The Events weekly e-mailing is a separate opt-in list; to receive it, notify wfopmuseletter@gmail.com.

DO NOT send social media invites (e.g., LinkedIn, FB) to the *Museletter* editor; they will be ignored.

Send all address changes, membership or *Museletter* delivery inquiries to wfopmuseletter@gmail.com.

2018 WISCONSIN FELLOWSHIP OF POETS CHAPBOOK PRIZE ENTRY FORM

DEADLINE (postmark): February 1, 2019

Poet's Name _____

Telephone _____ e-mail _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Chapbook Title _____

Publisher and Date (month and year) _____

CHOOSE AND SIGN ONE:

___ I am a Wisconsin resident, 18 years of age or older. The chapbook I am submitting is my own original work.

Signature _____ Date _____

___ As publisher, I am submitting this chapbook for _____, who, to my knowledge, is a Wisconsin resident, 18 years of age or older, and contains his/her original work.

Signature _____ Date _____

[Optional] Newspaper (name and address) to be notified if this chapbook is chosen as First Place or Second Place

Enclose published chapbook, entry form and fee (\$7 member/\$15 non-member per chapbook; make check payable to "WFOP Literary Fund").

Mail entry to: **Judy Kolosso**
4320 Cedar Creek Rd
Slinger WI 53086

Membership Renewal Form KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP CURRENT.

Renewals are due by December 31. Expiration year follows your name on the mailing label. Dues MUST be current to enter WFOP contests, be in the *Museletter*, receive mailings, and to have a page on wfop.org. Contact the *Museletter* Editor if you are not sure when your membership expires.

SAVE POSTAGE and renew or join online at wfop.org
or mail to: **Colleen Frentzel, 1410 N Wuthering Hills Dr, Janesville WI 53546**
Please make checks payable to: **WFOP**

Active \$30.00
Student \$15.00
*** 5 for 4 Deal ***
\$120 paid now will give
5 years of membership
for the price of 4! Save \$30!

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip+4 _____

E-mail address _____

Check to get weekly Events e-mail.

Willing to help WFOP save \$?
 Check to get *Museletter* via e-mail.

2018 TRIAD AWARDS

Anita Skeen judged the Kay Saunders Memorial New Poet category. There were 30 entries.

- 1st Place **Marilyn Windau** for “Undisturbed”
2nd Place **William McConnell** for “White Dinner Jacket”
3rd place **R. Chesney** for “Homecoming for the Ages”
Honorable Mentions **Ed Block** for “Nature’s Due”
Gene James Gilbert for “Crosswords”
Mary C. Rowin for “At the Oriental Pharmacy, Six Blocks from Lake Michigan”

Steve Klepetar judged the 66 entries in the theme contest for the theme, *Small Talk*.

- 1st place **Sandra J. Lindow** for “Darning”
2nd place **Crystal Spring Gibbins** for “Re: Wild”
3rd place **Maryann Hurtt** for “Smitten”
Honorable Mentions **Mary C. Rowin** for “Only Connect”
William McConnell for “Jairus’s Daughter”
Kathryn Gahl for “Two Fireflies”

Eric Nelson judged the 69 entries in the Poets’ Choice category.

- 1st Place **Crystal Spring Gibbins** for “Lake Sturgeon”
2nd Place **Gary Haren** for “Louie’s Place”
3rd place **Martha Kaplan** for “West Fork of the Kickapoo River”
Honorable Mention **Judy Kolosso** for “Her Last Pocketbook”
Andrea Potos for “Some Questions on Ireland, After”
Joyce M. Latham for “Eurydice”

Submission Guidelines for the 2019 WFOP Student Contest

Open for submissions; winning poems will appear in and receive the 2020 *Wisconsin Poets’ Calendar*. Cash prizes in each division: 1st place \$75; 2nd place \$50; 3rd place \$25. Junior (grades 6–8) and Senior (grades 9–12). E-mail to wfopstudents@att.net

DEADLINE: **Saturday, January 12, 2019**

wfop.org/s/2019-WFOP-Student-Contest-Rules.pdf

FROM THE ARCHIVIST

Please send WFOP correspondence, photos, conference/workshop programs/handouts, regional memorabilia, personal mementos, etc. Returnable; postage reimbursed!

Lewis Bosworth, WFOP Archivist
2829 Barlow St, Madison WI 53705-3621
lewisabosworth@gmail.com ~ 608-238-3648

WFOP volunteer position open: high school/college student or older adult needed to assist the WFOP archivist by scanning documents using existing software and scanner. Must be able to perform duties at the near west side of Madison home of archivist. Typical time commitment: 3 hours/twice a month. WFOP is a not-for-profit organization. For more information and interview call Lewis Bosworth, **608-238-3648** OR email to lewisabosworth@gmail.com.

In Memoriam

MARGARET “PEG” SHERRY passed away on September 22, 2018, at the age of 89. She was born in Baltimore, MD, September 8, 1929, grew up in Minneapolis, MN, and moved to Evansville, WI, with her family. She went to Radcliffe and Smith Colleges, graduating from UW–Madison, where she married Toby Sherry and received an undergraduate degree in Special Education and a Master’s degree in Education Administration. She taught in the Madison School District for nearly 30 years in Special Education, helping to initiate the Gifted and Talented programs. She privately tutored children with special needs and taught classes at Edgewood College. After retirement, Peg volunteered at Attic Angels, Olbrich Botanical Gardens and with the Madison school system. She was on the boards of organizations including Attic Angels, the Madison Children’s Museum and Madison Repertory Theatre. An avid reader and writer, she belonged to fiction, nonfiction and poetry groups in Madison and around the state. She had three books of essays and poetry published as well as work printed in various periodicals. With her husband, she trekked in Nepal, went on safari in Africa, and took two trips around the world. She loved the unique experiences that travel provided and loved meeting people from all over the world.

Poems ^{BY} Our Membership

—ELMAE PASSINEAU, EDITOR

Mind your Ps: Every once in a while, a random word poem seems to be in order. Submit a poem including the following seven words: primitive, pillow, preposterous, promenade, pearl, peak, piano.

PREPOSTEROUS, AS IN

contrary to common sense: as in
fool's errand on a path to the sea promenade
as in whitecaps as in small pillows strung like pearl
as in those peak high holy days of summer
& that the piano's minor keys could be sustained this long o
primitive love
that we even tried to keep the moon in a jar

—*Jeanie Tomasko, Middleton*

THE ROAD TO FAME

Primitive Prudence
Perched on a pillow
Plied her pearl necklace
Prior to performing
Piano solos on the promenade
Preposterous! she cried
Peak soprano tones rising
Pulchritude giving way to art

—*June Nirschl, Baileys Harbor*

PULSE

Pumping, pulsing, primitive, past
all phrases peppered with pearls of
practical, 1, 2, 3, peek inside a
player piano, holes promenade down
paper rolls punched with melodies
popular, at their peak years ago.
Preposterous, no petulant maybe, place
your prefrontal cortex on hands palms
down to pillow, listen to the pitter
patter of syncopated, 4, 5, 6, pedal
powered or did they turn a crank

—*Michael Michaels, Milwaukee*

*Note
that we are
far more likely
to find room
for shorter
poems!*

FOLK MUSIC

played as my fingers
promenade along pearl
keys of black piano,
my preposterous posterior

upon a cushy pillow.
I play the primitive folk
songs of my putative
father until melody

reaches a pause at peak
crescendo, a nod to
my pretty mother.

—*Patricia Carney, Cudahy*

PREPOSTEROUS

At her peak, Lucy, a sleek Siamese,
pranced a haughty promenade
as she worked the room,
extended a paw in greeting,
bowed her head in prayer
forepaws on a pillow,
propelled herself through a hoop,
slithered in and out of her house
her head and tail visible at the same time,
caressed the keys of a battery-operated piano
as she entertained with a primitive sonata.

A pearl, indeed . . .

—*Patricia Smith, Knapp*

FROM THE DOOR OF THE OLD WORLD ROOM

In a primitive room a pillow plops
on a corner cot and long-abandoned
papers lay scattered, rain-smear'd
on a timeworn, yellowed oak desk.

It seems preposterous then that an upright
piano, stately and ostentatiously sculpted
leans against a rain-blotched wall,
acting promenade for jolly wild animals.

Perhaps they are marching to Pretoria
in their whittled bodies of wood and pearl.
A short, floppy sea lion launches the line
and a giraffe high-steps it at its peak.

A small sticky-handed boy slips under
the velvet and brass door chain ignoring
pleas to "Get back here, Joel!" scrambles
onto the bench and snatches the bear.

—*Laurel Devitt, LaCrosse*

RANDOM P's

To propose a poem
composed of "p's"?
Preposterous, perhaps;
more likely, it's
a promenade along
a primitive plage
or peach-lined Platz,
a sail aboard a pomegranate
punt, perforce, around
a promontory, pleased by
a purple pepper patch,
detached, serene,
before you plummet
from a pearl-gray peak
to land upon a puce
piano pillow in a dream.

—*Ed Block, Greendale*

THE COWBOY

In Western shirt with snaps of pearl,
he steps preposterous. Promenade
and do-si-do, he swings the girl
in Western shirt with snaps of pearl.
Primitive, the music's swirl
commands his every bow and nod.
In Western shirt with snaps of pearl
he steps preposterous promenade.

The dancing done, piano stilled,
he settles in his lonely bed.
Another evening's time is killed,
the dancing done, piano stilled.
The evening's peak? A smile that thrilled.
His pillow thoughts dance in his head.
The dancing done, piano stilled,
he settles, in his lonely bed.

—*Gail Sosinsky, Madison*

PRELUDE

Before seating myself
on my primitive, hand-plucked
goose-down pillow,
I take a preposterous promenade
toward the pearl
of my possessions,
until I reach the psychic peak
of readiness to perform,
with pleasure and pride,
my own original "Paean of Joy"
while comfortably poised
at my grand piano.

—*Frances Henkel, Wauwatosa*

SPOONING ~ DEADLINE JANUARY 15

In the style of Edgar Lee Masters' *Spoon River Anthology*,
submit a first person "eulogy" for a real or imagined person.
Maximum 18 lines.

Send to: etp1024@gmail.com

Or snailmail to: **Elmae Passineau**
7007 Weston Ridge Dr #14
Weston WI 54476

WISCONSIN FELLOWSHIP OF POETS
938 E DAYTON ST APT 1
MADISON WI 53703-4618
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Next Issue Deadline FEBRUARY 1, 2019

MUSICAL PALETTE

My primitive hands plink
her piano keys as she cringes,
so proper in her pearls and pumps.

How preposterous to think
my tone-deaf fingers could coax
delight from the black and whites;
seems all they can manage is a slow
promenade, which my legs mimic
on my way home to bed.

Nestled in plump pillows,
I dream-paint crescendo peaks
as music morphs into a palette
of luminous tones.

—Chris Daleiden, *Fond du Lac*

CUMULONIMBUS

Preposterous pillows and peaks of pearl-
and pigeon-gray plumage promenaded silently
over our prairie pleasance . . . until a tiny piano
began plinking, then a spatter of snare drums,
followed by the primitive boom of bongos.
Cymbals crashed and sizzled and smashed
as the dark sky pelted us and lit up pink.

—F. J. Bergmann, *Madison*